

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 141284
ORIGIN SSO-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:DROBINSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUSNAAA/USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

CINCMAC IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 141284

FOLLOWING REPEAT ABIDJAN 5267, ACTION SECSTATE, INFO RABAT
BONN BRUSSELS KINSHASA LIBREVILLE LOME LUBUMBASHI DAKAR PARIS
04 JUNE:

QUOTE S E C R E T ABIDJAN 5267

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, EFIN, EAID, CG, FR, BE, MO

SUBJ: SHABA AFRICAN FORCE

REF: ABIDJAN 5262

1. FOREIGN MINISTER AKE, WHO RETURNED TO ABIDJAN
FROM PARIS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF GOVT AT 0400 THIS
MORNING, RECEIVED AMBASSADOR AT 1130.

2. AKE INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT IVORIAN GOVT HAD
DECIDED TO SEND MILITARY MEDICAL TEAM OF 105 REPEAT
105 OFFICERS AND MEN TO ZAIRE. THIS WOULD BE
IVORIAN CONTRIBUTION TO INTER-AFRICAN EFFORT TO

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STABILIZE SITUATION IN ZAIRE. MEDICS WITH EQUIPMENT
WOULD BE READY TO TRAVEL BY TUESDAY, JUNE 6, AND,
AT REQUEST OF HOUPHOUET, FOREIGN MINISTER WISHED
FORMALLY TO REQUEST U.S. ASSISTANCE IN AIRLIFTING
IVORIANS TO ZAIRE.

3. AMBASSADOR INFORMED AKE THAT WE WERE PREPARED

TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT AND THAT THE GOIC WOULD BE INFORMED
AS SOON AS WE RECEIVED WORD FROM WASHINGTON ON
TIMING.

4. COMMENT: IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM AMBASSADOR,
AKE SAID THAT IVORIAN MEDICAL TEAM WOULD CARRY QUOTE
LIGHT UNQUOTE EQUIPMENT BUT HE COULD NOT SPECIFY
TOTAL WEIGHT. WE WILL ENDEAVOR PROVIDE ESTIMATE
WHEN WE HAVE SPOKEN FURTHER WITH IVORIAN AUTHORITIES.

5. AKE SAID THAT HOUPHOUET WAS STILL IN PARIS WHERE
HE WOULD REMAIN AT LEAST UNTIL END OF THIS WEEK.
FOREIGN MINISTER ADDED THAT HOUPHOUET AND ENTIRE
IVORIAN GOVT WERE DELIGHTED THAT U.S. WAS ACTIVELY
PARTICIPATING IN JOINT EFFORT TO STABILIZE SITUATION
IN ZAIRE. STEARNS UNQUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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